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NBC

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WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS #196

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET WMAZ

(1:30-2:00 P.M.)

TIME

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DATE

(FRIDAY)

DAY

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

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REMARKS

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ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: RANGER SONG

ANNOUNCER: Along with many other recreational and economic resources, our National Forests contain many thousand miles of fine fishing streams - some of the finest in the country. With the followers of Izaak Walton in this country numbering many millions, it has become a serious problem to keep some of the more accessible streams in the National Forests adequately stocked with fish. And again, forest fires and destructive use of forest land in the past, have adversely affected many streams and reduced their capacity for carrying fish. So, the United States Forest Service, and cooperating agencies, are carrying on extensive work to restock depleted fishing streams, to maintain stream conditions that make for good fishing, and to apply stream improvement measures that will increase the carrying capacity of streams for fish.

Well, now to the Pine Cone Ranger Station, and we'll see what our old friend Ranger Jim Robbins is doing today.

We're hitting the Pine Cone Station early today -- Ranger Jim and Bess and Assistant Ranger Jerry Quick have just finished breakfast. Here they are ---

JIM: Got your hip boots handy, Jerry?

JERRY: Hip boots? What's the idea? Tain't raining or anything

JIM: Nope, but I s'pect we're going to have a little wading to do, just the same.

BESS: What are you going to do, Jim?

JIM: Chase fish.

BESS: Chase fish? What on earth do you want to chase fish for?

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Sounds like some kind of a children's game, eh? -- Nope, it's serious business, Bess. You know that nurse pond we fixed up a while back, up on Winding Creek?

BESS: Yes, I remember you said something about it.

JIM: Well, it was a cooperative project. The Izaak Walton League Chapter down at Willow Glen cooperated with us on it. You remember, we selected a spot on the Creek where we could throw in a small earth dam so that it would flood an old channel and create a pond.

JERRY: Yeah, it's a nice pond, Mrs. Robbins - covers about an acre, and it's about six to eight feet deep some places.

JIM: That's right. We had a crew of men working on it, you remember.

BESS: Yes.

JIM: Well, we arranged it so that some of the water from Winding Creek is diverted into the pond to maintain the water level; and then the outlet is arranged so we can open it and the whole pond will drain back into the Creek again, - see? Well, we got some fingerling trout from the fish hatchery and put 'em in the pond, and when they reach a size of about eight inches, we drain the pond and send the fish down into the stream to replenish the fishing

BESS: That's what you're going to do today?

JIM: Yes I'm expecting Bill Mason up here early this morning, - he's a lawyer down in Willow Glen and head of the Izaak Walton Chapter down there -- and he's bringing up a bunch of fellows that volunteered to help us.

JERRY: That's good We'll need help on a job like that.

JIM: Yeh. - All those men are mighty interested in the project, of course, - not only because they like good fishing, but because it's good business. You see, good fishing means that people come up here to fish, and they patronize the hotels, resorts and gas stations, and buy supplies, and all that. You might say fishing is one of the things that supports this community. Fish in the streams are an economic resource as well as a source of mighty fine sport and recreation for a lot of people. Some pretty good sized industries -- industries that employ thousands of people, like sporting goods manufacturing and retailing, and some of the tourist and hotel business, - it'd surprise you to find out how many of 'em are dependent after all on fish being in the streams. -- So, that's another one of the ways - by helping to keep fish in the streams - that's another one of the ways we're making our National Forests contribute to the welfare of the communities.

JERRY: Say, that's right, Jim. I never thought of that side of it before.

JIM: Yeh. I always figured it was a good thing to figure out why a thing's worth doing, before you do it.

JERRY: You bet - I'm gonna hunt up those hip boots now, Jim, so I'll be ready to help you chase those fish.

JIM: All right
(KNOCK ON DOOR)

BESS: Somebody's at the door, Jim.

JIM: I suspect that's Bill Mason now. (CALLS) Come in.

BESS: Here I am with my apron on and everything. (GOING OFF)

I'd better run for the kitchen

(SOUND OF DOOR)

MASON: (COMING IN) Good morning, Jim.

JIM: Howdy, Bill. You got up here bright and early, didn't you?

MASON: Yep, and I got a good bunch of the boys with me too, Jim.

They're waiting outside there -- all ready to go.

JIM: That's fine, Bill. Jerry's hunting up his hip boots now, so we'll be ready to shove off directly.

MASON: Say, I was up there at the pond a few days ago, Jim. Those fish sure look fine.

JIM: Yeah, I've been watching 'em from time to time.

MASON: I bet they've grown two inches in a single year.

JIM: Uh huh. There's an abundance of fish food in that pond. We've done everything we could to improve the food conditions.

MASON: You've done a mighty good job, Jim -- The boys out there are all keen about this project. (LAUGHS) Say, by the way, wait till you see Shorty.

JIM: Shorty?

MASON: Yeah, Shorty Evans. -- You know, he runs the drug store down on Main Street.

JIM: Oh yeah. Shorty the druggist. What about him?

MASON: You know what a little short, stubby fellow he is. Well, he's got a pair of hip boots on that come clear up over his shoulders. (LAUGHS) Wait'll you see 'im, Jim. Say, we they're brand new boots, too. I guess we'll have to christen 'em for 'im - eh, Jim?

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Maybe so, -- Here comes Jerry, Bill. Let's get going.

(INTERVAL-MUSIC)

(FADE IN - MEN LAUGHING)

VOICE: HEY, where are the boots going with Shorty.

VOICE: Slap up to his neck. (LAUGHTER)

MASON: (KIDDING) Shorty, it'd sure be a shame to get mad on those new hip boots.

SHORTY: Don't you worry about my boots, you fellows.

MASON: Maybe you'd better not go into the pond, Shorty. (LAUGHING) He might get bogged down, fellas, and then we never would find 'im.

VOICE: If water got in over the tops of those boots he'd drown. (LAUGHTER)

VOICE: He'll get lost in the tall water-grass. How about it, Jim?

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Oh, I reckon Shorty'll get around all right. Maybe his legs are short, but from what I've seen of him, I s'pect he can cover as much ground as a lot of long-legged fellows I know.

SHORTY: See? Hear that, you fellas? Listen to what the Ranger says.

MASON: (LAUGHING) Maybe so, Jim, but if he ever gets bogged down --

SHORTY: Listen here, Bill Mason. If I can't chase more fish out of that pond than you can, I'll buy you the best fly rod you can get in Willow Glen.

MASON: Oho Shorty's laying me a fly rod he can chase more fish outa the pond than I can.

JIM: (CHUCKLING) After the way you've been kidding poor Shorty here, you oughta take him up on that, Bill.

MASON: All right, Shorty - the best fly rod in town if I don't chase more fish out of the pond than you do.

SHORTY: All right.

JIM: Well, fellows, are you all ready?

VOICES: Yeah. Sure. Let's go -- etc.

JIM: Jerry, you get down at the lower dam, will you, - and when we're ready, you can open up the outlet to the pond.

JERRY: Okay, Jim. You give me the word when you're ready.

JIM: Yep. -- Now fellas, when Jerry opens up the outlet, we're going to line out up at the upper end here and tread out the pond as the water recedes - see? We've got to scare out the fish - get 'em out into the stream, so they won't get strangled in the mud when the water goes out.

VOICES. I getcha; Let's go - etc

JIM: All right. Spread out, fellows -- That's the way
(CALLS) All right, Jerry, open 'er up.

JERRY: (OFF) Okay, Jim Here she goes

SOUND: RUSHING WATER -- BACKGROUND

MASON: Quite a rush of water. ain't it.

JIM: Yep. We'll begin treading out the pond pretty quick
now. -- Got that net handy, Billy? S'pose we net a
few samples of fish and see how they look.

MASON: Yeah. Here it is.

JIM: All right -- Umph -- There -- there's a couple Beauti ,
ain't they

MASON: Yeah. Nice looking trout. They seem to run pretty
uniform in length, Jim. About eight inches.

JIM: Yeah. That's one of the good things about this nurse pond
method of restocking streams, Bill. You get your fish all
of one size, so they can't destroy each other - and when
they're liberated in the streams they're big enough to
care of themselves.

MASON: Yeah, it's a good system, all right. Economical, too.

JIM: Yep. The way we have to do it on some of the streams -
taking up cans of fry and dumping 'em in the creeks,
there's quite a big loss. A lot of the little fry go
to feed the larger fish. -- All right, Mr. Trout,
back into the water with you - and long life to you. --
(CALLS) We better start treading out the pond now,
fellows

VOICES: Okay - etc

SOUND: (WALKING IN WATER)

JIM: We wants get all the fish out into the stream.

VOICE: Boy, this mud's sure deep.

JIM: Better watch your step, fellows. It's slippery

VOICE: Here's a trout floppin' in the mud, Jim.

JIM: Shove 'im back into the water.

MASON: How's Shorty gettin' along?

VOICE: I bet he sinks clear out of sight.

(LAUGHTER)

SHORTY: I'm gettin' along all right. You fellas better watch your own footin'.

MASON: (LAUGHING) Look at Shorty wallowin' in the mud. Look at 'im, boys, he's -- Hey! Umph! (SOUND OF MASON TAKING FLOP IN MUD)

JIM: (CHUCKLING) What's the matter, Bill. Takin' a mud bath?

VOICE: (LAUGHING) Bill Mason took a header in the mud.

(LAUGHTER)

MASON: (SPUTTERING) Doggone it. My foot slipped. Somebody help me outa this will yuh!

VOICE: Shorty'll help yuh.

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Mud baths are a good beauty treatment, they say, Bill.

MASON: Aw, lay off. My foot slipped.

MASON: Thanks.

JIM: I s'pect you better be getting some of that mud washed off yuh, Bill. The rest of us 'll go on treadin' the pond. --- (CHUCKLES) Looks to me like you're going to be owing Shorty that fishing rod, Bill, too.

VOICES: Shorty wins the fishing rod! That's one on you, Bill.

(LAUGHTER)

SHORTY: Believe me, I'm gonna collect that fly rod, too. You would kid a fella about bein' too short, huh, Bill?

MASON: I guess you win, all right, Shorty. Sorry I kidded yuh.

(FADEOUT)

(PAUSE)

(FADE IN-VOICES)

JIM: Well, that's a good job done, fellows. Looks like we got all the fish out into the creek.

VOICE: Yes sir. They're 'll be plenty of fish in Winding Creek this year.

JERRY: When do we want to close up the pond again, Jim?

JIM: Right away, Jerry. And soon as she fills up with water again, we'll get some more fingerlings from the fish hatchery and restock the pond. (RAISING VOICE) We're going to keep working till Winding Creek's as good a fishing stream as any in the State. How about it, fellows?

VOICES You bet! -- That's the old spirit! -- etc.

(FADEOUT)

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